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**THE  
“I AM”  
EXPERIENCES  
of  
MR. G. W. BALLARD  
(GODFREY RAY KING)**

**AN ANALYSIS**

**By**

**Dr. GERALD B. BRYAN**

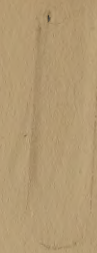
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THE  
"I AM"  
EXPERIENCES  
OF

MR. G. W. BALLARD  
(Godfré Ray King)

An Analysis of "*Unveiled Mysteries*,"  
the "*Magic Presence*," and the  
"*I AM Discourses*"

by  
DR. G. B. BRYAN

BROCHURE No. 1

First Edition  
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G. B. Bryan, D.C.

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** Brochure No. 2 is in preparation. It will analyze the "*I AM Teachings*" as given by "Saint Germain" and the other "Ascended Masters" through Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Ballard, comparing them with other teachings and showing wherein, in the opinion of the author, they may or may not be safely followed. Price 35 cents. Order now from

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DEDICATED  
TO THE CAUSE OF TRUTH  
WHICH LIES AT THE HEART OF THE UNIVERSE



## FOREWORD

In presenting this analysis of the experiences of Mr. G. W. Ballard I have endeavored to be accurate and fair. I have disregarded reports and rumors about the Ballards, and have, instead, taken **their published writings and their actual statements** in a sincere effort to decide whether they are what they claim to be. It is in no sense a personal attack on Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, but it is published to help those who care to read it to decide whether they are willing **"to forget everything else they have ever studied"** (as the Ballards insist they do) and **follow only** the Way of Life as given by the "Authorized Messengers" of Jesus the Christ and Saint Germain the Ascended Master.

I have, therefore, directed the searchlight of reason and analysis upon their statements (something they urge their students not to do) in an endeavor to find whether they are worthy to be followed. I would prefer to keep this analysis to myself and use it for my own purpose; in fact, much of it was originally written to prove to myself whether the transcendental things that Mr. Ballard tells about could be true.

Finding so much that was wanting from the standpoint of accuracy and truth, and knowing that many thousands of people were following the teachings without question **on the word of two individuals**, I, in time, came to the decision that it was my duty to let others read it, for many people would not have the time nor aptitude for such analysis.

One of the reasons that influenced me to publish this commentary on the Ballard teachings was the statement of a valued friend, who said in substance:

"If you were following a certain teaching which seemed to bear the stamp of truth and had decided to give up every-



thing else, and someone better informed than you showed you unmistakably the errors it would lead you into, perhaps for many lives, wouldn't you be everlastingly grateful to that individual for enlightening you?"

"Why, yes, I would," I had to reply.

"Well, then," she said, "why don't you do the same thing for others? You have certain startling disclosures which would be invaluable in helping striving souls to discriminate between Truth and Error. Why keep this information only for yourself or for an intimate few?"

Therefore I am sending it out. Some will take it, no doubt, as an attack on the personality of the Ballards and will promptly say that I am an agent of the "sinister force." Or they may think that I am attacking the idea of the "I AM Presence" within. Neither is true. I am only interested in discovering the TRUTH, the "Way of Life," as I believe many who read this analysis will be. With it goes compassion, and a prayer to Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, and their son, Donald, that they may always face the Light and Truth of their "Mighty I AM Presence."



## THE "TRUTH" STANDS EVERY TEST

In the great heterogeneous mixing-bowl of life there are many ingredients which are not always able to endure the fires of analysis and testing.

But *real* Truth, like pure gold, fears no testing. It will hold up under the most rigid inspection. It will bear the acid test of criticism without flinching. It will cry out in vibrant voice: "*Test Me! for I am Truth.*" It will never seek to prevent investigation.

Seekers after the Gold of the Spirit as we are, we must apply certain tests, as does the dealer in precious stones and metals. Foolish would be the connoisseur of precious things if he didn't. He would have many blemishes in his gems and alloy in his gold. So would we if we accepted any teaching or philosophy *blindly* without applying the tests of reason, analysis, and intuition, which are divine gifts of God to man.

It is characteristic of all truly great teachers in these Western lands that they encourage their students to seek for Truth in their own individual way, never to have them follow blindly any doctrine or teaching. They know that *Truth is many-sided* like a diamond of many facets, and they never say they have the *only* truth. Even the Christ stood mute before Pilate when he was asked, "What is Truth?" This great Master knew that Truth could not be revealed in its entirety to others; that Pilate had to find it *within* himself, as do we, and not from any outside Master, ascended or unascended; that it could not be handed on a "silver platter."

Will you follow with me, reader, to apply these tests to the Ballard teaching? If it is the Truth it can do no harm; if it is not, the sooner we know it the better.



## HOW DATES DISPROVE MR. BALLARD'S EXPERIENCES

In Mr. G. W. Ballard's first book, "UNVEILED MYSTERIES," written under the *nom de plume* of Godfré Ray King, he tells of the beginning of his extraordinary experiences with the spiritual Being whom he calls Saint Germain. He says in the Foreword of that book, Page XII, that:

" . . . these experiences are as Real and True as mankind's existence on this earth today, and that they all occurred during **August, September, and October** of 1930 upon Mount Shasta, California, U. S. A."\*

In Mr. Ballard's second book, the "MAGIC PRESENCE," Page XI of the Foreword, he says:

"This book contains the *second* group of experiences . . . "

We get a clue to the years that the "MAGIC PRESENCE" covers from Page 132 of that book. Here Saint Germain is quoted as saying:

"*One year* from today, **July 28, 1931**, we shall all meet again in the Cave of Symbols, and Daniel Rayborn will complete the raising into his electronic body . . . "

Saint Germain spoke the above words on July 28, 1931. One year after that date Daniel Rayborn was to make his ascension. Accordingly we find on Pages 287 and 288 that

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\*The dates, quotations, and page numbers are taken from the *first* editions of the Ballard books. Later editions may or may not have page numbers corresponding with these quotations.

The italicized and bold-face type in the quotations are our own, as also the use of small capitals in the presentment of contrasting passages.



he made his ascension on the night of July 27, just as Saint Germain said he would. The year necessarily had to be 1932 (one year after July 28, 1931).

Then it is related in this book how Mr. Ballard, Rex and Nada Rayborn, Bob and Pearl Singleton, began their long trip to the Far East, and on Page 297 it is recorded:

“At four o’clock in the afternoon of the **twenty-eighth**, we boarded the *S. S. Majestic* . . . ”

By reading Pages 292 and 293 it is discovered that the month was unquestionably **August**, and the year had to be 1932.

NOW THE STRANGE, CONTRADICTIONARY, AND UNEXPLAINABLE THING ABOUT THESE DATES IS THAT IN THE THIRD BOOK OF THE SAINT GERMAIN SERIES, THE “**I AM DISCOURSES**” (Page XV of the Foreword), MR. BALLARD WRITES:

“The Thirty-three Discourses contained in this book were dictated over a Visible Light and Sound Ray in our *home* during 1932!!!!”

Remember that these thirty-three discourses were received by both Mr. and Mrs. Ballard at their home in Chicago *after* Mr. Ballard’s return from the Far East.

NOW IF MR. BALLARD SAILED FOR INDIA IN **AUGUST OF 1932 TO BE GONE FOR MONTHS** (as the “Magic Presence” unquestionably indicates), **HOW IN THE WORLD COULD HE HAVE RECEIVED THE “DISCOURSES” AT HIS HOME IN CHICAGO DURING THE SUMMER AND FALL OF 1932?**

The Arcturus Discourse in this third book (Page 357) was given on **July 4, 1932**, and of course, like the others, at Mr. Ballard’s home in Chicago. The amazing thing is that



at this time Mr. Ballard was *hundreds of miles* from Chicago, for the "Magic Presence" (Page 274) says:

"We made the trip to the mine [in Colorado] with the Livingstons on the morning of **July seventh . . .**"

The year of course was **1932**, for this trip to the mine was made twenty days before the asserted ascension of Daniel Rayborn (July 27, **1932**), and *before* Mr. Ballard's Far East trip.

Now let us take another discourse, and check it by means of the dates. The first of the Saint Germain discourses listed in the book is the one given on Page 1 under date of **October 3, 1932**. This, too, is impossible, for if the "Magic Presence" is correct, Mr. Ballard was at that time *thousands of miles* from Chicago on his way to the Far East, having sailed **August 28 [1932]**, as stated on Page 297 of the "Magic Presence."

And so it is with practically all the "I AM Discourses" appearing in this third book. They were supposed to have been given during the months of **October, November, and December of 1932** (see Page XIX of the contents for confirmation of this), and were dictated at Mr. Ballard's *home* in Chicago while he was personally present in the flesh. Yet, the "Magic Presence" says that he was **during those same months** traveling (as you and I might travel) in the *Far East* with Bob, Rex, Pearl, Nada, and others of the party.

Taking another date, the date that Mr. Ballard was supposed to have been present at the Ascension of Daniel Rayborn in *Wyoming* (quite definitely stated in the "Magic Presence" as **July 27, 1932**), he simply could NOT have been there, for if the "I AM Discourses" are correct, he had



already by that date received the Arcturus Discourse of **July 4, 1932**, at his *home* in Chicago.

On Page 336 of the "Magic Presence," Mr. Ballard and his party were told, while at the Arabian Retreat, that they would "*go to India for a stay of TEN MONTHS' TRAINING.*" This would mean that if he left as he said he did, **August 28 (1932)**, it would be well into **1933** before he could return to America. Yet he was receiving the discourses in Chicago in **1932!**

There is no denying that there is damaging discrepancy of the time element in these three books. Mr. Ballard writes a narrative of personal experiences beginning **August, 1930**, on Mount Shasta and running through date after date "*in the order in which the events occurred*" (as it is said in the Editor's Note in the second edition of "Unveiled Mysteries"), until he received the discourses over the Light and Sound Ray in his home in Chicago during the **Summer and Fall of 1932**—a period of just **TWO YEARS**. And yet if his various experiences are followed through and carefully checked, they embrace a period of **THREE YEARS**—from **August, 1930**, to the time that he *should* have received the discourses after his Far East trip, which should have been in **1933** and *not* **1932**.

It will be noticed that all through this analysis we have used the date given on Page 132 of the "Magic Presence" as one of the chief "key" dates. There Saint Germain is quoted as saying:

"One year from today, **July 28, 1931**, we shall all meet again in the Cave of Symbols, and Daniel Rayborn will complete the raising into his electronic body . . ."

Now if it is argued that the day Saint Germain was speaking was really **July 28, 1930**, and *not* **1931**, then that, too,

would be an impossible date, for Mr. Ballard on **July 28, 1930**, had not even contacted Saint Germain. His experiences with Saint Germain "occurred during **August, September, and October of 1930** upon Mount Shasta," says his first book, "Unveiled Mysteries." The correctness of the year (1930) is verified on Page 244 of "Unveiled Mysteries," where Mr. Ballard says:

" . . . the morning of December thirty-first, **nineteen hundred thirty**, came . . . "

Also on Page 260 of this same book, in the Royal Teton at the close of the old year, **1930**, he says:

"All passed before Lanto, and received individual instruction for the work of **nineteen thirty-one** . . . " (which of course was the *new* year).

These *same* dates appear in the *second* edition of "Unveiled Mysteries." Although the book has been completely reprinted and punctuation marks changed, **there has been no change in these dates**, so the dates could hardly have been a mistake or a typographical error.

It is simply impossible to explain this discrepancy of dates, and we are brought to the conclusion that despite Mr. Ballard's repeated and earnest assertions that "every word recorded in these books is true," the dates themselves prove that this is not so. *One cannot crowd THREE years of actual experiences into TWO years of time.*



MR. BALLARD DID **NOT** SAIL ON THE S. S. MAJESTIC DURING AUGUST OF 1931 OR 1932!!!

Another damaging piece of evidence against the truth of Mr. Ballard's experiences is that furnished by the *Cunard White Star Line* of 25 Broadway, New York City. The following is a verbatim copy of their letter:

June 19th, 1936.

Dr. G. B. Bryan,  
10952 Weyburn Ave.,  
Westwood, California.

Dear Sir:

We would thank you to kindly refer to your communication of June 11th relative to information concerning a certain passenger allegedly to have sailed in the "Majestic" which we find left New York on **August 24th, 1931**, and **August 19th, 1932**, calling in both instances at Cherbourg.

We have checked up our list for these sailings, but *cannot find that the names of G. W. BALLARD, GODFRE RAY KING, Robert Livingston, Bob Rayborn nor Pearl Rayborn appear thereon.*

If you should have any further information that might help us we will be glad indeed to check up the matter for you again.

Very truly yours,

CUNARD-WHITE STAR LIMITED.

Cabin Dept.

GWR/AS

It will be recalled that Mr. Ballard said he sailed for the Far East on **August 28** (Page 297, "Magic Presence"). *The steamer did not sail on that date!*

## “SAINT GERMAIN” OF THE BALLARDS

Perhaps the reader will begin to wonder at this point about the Being whom Mr. Ballard refers to as “Saint Germain” and who assertedly has dictated most of the discourses appearing in the third book: “The I AM Discourses.”

And he will ask: “Considering the inaccuracies of the first two books, is it safe to put any reliance upon the third book which Mr. Ballard said Saint Germain dictated over the Light and Sound Ray?”

Personally, I believe it is well to read the “I AM Discourses” in the same way as the intelligent person reads any other piece of literature—with a proper degree of discrimination. Even the Bible, among discriminating persons, is not accepted one hundred per cent as the Word of God.

Students of the Ballards have, during the past year or two, built up in their minds a love and a devotion for Saint Germain second only, or equal, to Jesus. This they have done simply on the word of two individuals.

Mr. Ballard, writing in “Unveiled Mysteries,” says that when Saint Germain was King and Emperor of the Sahara civilization 70,000 years ago, he was a *Being of marvelous power*, and was referred to on Page 55 as one of the “*Great Selfless Ones*.” On Pages 149 and 152 he is called “*Master Saint Germain*,” during the Inca Civilization 14,000 years ago.

Writing in the March issue of their monthly magazine, the “VOICE OF THE I AM,” Page 5, the Ballards say of Saint Germain:

“His *last* embodiment was that of Lord Francis Bacon, who was the son of Queen Elizabeth . . .”



Now if Saint Germain was such a marvelous and powerful Being thousands of years ago, it is difficult to picture him in his last embodiment as Francis Bacon, one who, despite his splendid abilities, was quite human, as the following historical account will show; quoting from "*Myers General History*" (Ginn & Co.):

"The close of the life of the great philosopher Francis Bacon was scarcely less sad than that of Sir Walter Raleigh. He held the office of Lord Chancellor, and yielding to the temptations of the corrupt times upon which he had fallen, accepted bribes from the suitors who brought cases before him. *He was impeached and brought to the bar of the House of Lords, where he confessed his guilt, pathetically appealing to his judges 'to be merciful to a broken reed.'* He was sentenced to pay a heavy fine, and to imprisonment in the Tower. But the king in pity released him from all the penalty, and even conferred a pension upon him. He lived only five years after his fall and disgrace, dying in 1626."

I quote this in no way offering a criticism of Francis Bacon and his splendid achievements, but merely to show the **difference** between Jesus the Christ and Lord Bacon whom the Ballards say made his ascension in that life, and was Saint Germain.

Great as he was (and perhaps history has misjudged him) it is certainly true that Lord Bacon was a human being with faults and failings. Jesus, on the other hand, was a powerful personality, who, if we are to believe the Gospels, had power over the elements, and made such an impression upon the world that the calendar of Western peoples was changed and

for 1900 years His life and teachings have given inspiration to untold millions of striving souls. Therefore, it seems distinctly out of place to raise Saint Germain (Lord Bacon) to the status of Jesus the Christ.

Another unbelievable—or rather, impossible—thing is the following. On Page 7 of the March, 1936, issue of the “Voice of the I AM” the Ballards write:

“Saint Germain illumined and raised His body in  
1684 . . . ”

Now, according to history, Francis Bacon *died* in the year 1626: And yet the Ballards say that he (as Saint Germain) made his Ascension in 1684.

Mr. Ballard has frequently stated that the Ascension has to be made in the physical body. How, then, could Lord Bacon have made his Ascension 58 YEARS AFTER THE RECORDED DEATH OF THAT BODY?

In “Unveiled Mysteries” and the “Magic Presence” is printed a picture of “The Ascended Master Saint Germain.” Later, a well-known Los Angeles artist made another picture of him, which appeared in the “I AM Discourses,” and of which Mr. Ballard says it is: “*an exact likeness as He has appeared on many occasions in the Retreat.*” Comparing these two pictures it is strange that there should be such a difference between them. One would never think they represented the same person.

The Theosophical and Rosicrucian Societies recognize an Initiate into the Mysteries known as Saint Germain. However, so far as the writer has been able to find out, there is no official recognition from these Societies of the “Saint Germain” of the Ballards.



## CONTRADICTIONS OF AN ALLEGED "ASCENDED MASTER"

Let us at this time take the published statements of the Ballards' "Saint Germain" and see whether they measure up to our conception of what a Perfected Being might say.

On Page 92 of the "I AM Discourses," Saint Germain is quoted as saying:

"To be aware of what is a thousand years in advance is as easily and readily attained, in fact more so, as going to your library in search of a book."

Naturally, Saint Germain infers by this that he has this power, and the same applies to other Ascended Masters, because they are Perfected Beings. We would expect **infallibility of prophecy** by this statement. Yet it would appear by *another* statement he makes that this is *not* so. I quote from Pages 213-214 of the "Discourses":

"Until this focus of Radiation began, it was **doubted** by most, except Nada and myself, the possibility of establishing such a focus in this busy Western World, but **they did not know what I did, it not having been revealed to them**, the fact of our long association [with the Ballards of course] . . . I said to them: 'The time has come when there are those outside of the Retreats, who can be made True Messengers of the Light.' Thanks to you, I have been proved right . . . Most of the time I have **stood alone** . . . "

We have a further proof of an alleged "Ascended Master's" fallibility and inaccuracy of statement in the following two statements:

On Pages 214-15 of the "Discourses" Saint Germain says:

"This good Brother [Mr. Ballard], until recently of course HAS NOT KNOWN IT, but for thirty years he has been being prepared for it."

The other statement he makes eleven days later, on Page 244, which contradicts the first:

"This beloved Sister and Brother [Mr. and Mrs. Ballard] have gone through thirty years of strenuous, CONSCIOUS PREPARATION for this work."

How in the world could a great Ascended Master say at one time that the preparation was *unconsciously* made, and a short time later say that it was *consciously* done?

And it was Saint Germain himself who said on Page 157 of the "Magic Presence":

*"An Ascended Master makes no mistakes, of that I can assure you."*

Just to mention another mistake, or inaccuracy of statement (and there are many of them), I quote from his New Year's Day Discourse, given January 1, 1936, at Los Angeles, as recorded in the February issue of the "Voice of the I AM," Page 12:

"Seven thousand seven hundred students were guests of the Ascended Masters at the Royal Teton from ten o'clock last evening to four o'clock this morning. Not in 200,000 years has such a wonderous event taken place."



And in the same discourse (Page 14) he says:

“Not in over **four hundred thousand years**, have so many students been prepared and permitted to visit a single retreat, as was experienced last night in the Royal Teton, showing how very great is the expansion of the Light within the hearts of mankind . . . ”

Here Saint Germain makes a mistake of 200,000 years in dealing with the same event. But then, what can one expect when decrees of TIMELESSNESS and SPACELESSNESS are continually being made!

Saint Germain seemingly is always at Mr. Ballard’s “beck and call.” In this respect, and many others, he is different from most of the great Teachers and Masters. He instructs Mr. Ballard in many of the ordinary things of life. So much so that one would think that he would surely have told Mr. Ballard about the **erroneous dates** in the books and the **typographical and grammatical mistakes**. Particularly so, when one remembers that the *real* Saint Germain was a master of many languages. Surely a Being who is so infallible and perfect as Mr. Ballard says he is, would not have permitted his teaching to go out in such a form, to become the object of such a revealing analysis as this.

## THE ASTRONOMY OF “SAINT GERMAIN”

Mrs. Ballard on the platform has frequently commented on the statement of Saint Germain to the effect that “**the sun is NOT 93 million miles away, but LESS THAN 2 MILLION.**”

Material science is far from being infallible, but at the same time one can hardly accept this statement of Saint Germain's without some little evidence that it is true.

It is strange that with the earth traveling around the sun 365 days in one year with a *known rate of speed* that it could do so on such a short radius of less than two million miles, when astronomers the world over are agreed that this radius would have to be at least ninety-three million miles to account for certain *exact* and *regular* stellar happenings and the appearance of eclipses, lunations, and comets.

Working with the formula of 93,000,000 miles, our astronomers never miss a sunrise to the exact split second, or a new moon, or even such an irregular visitor as a comet. Their system certainly works, and if the sun ISN'T ninety-three million miles away, it seems that the burden of proof should lie upon the shoulders of those of a different mathematical belief.

Even the Egyptian astrologers of the Great Pyramid times (of whom we are given to understand that they had considerable occult information) figured the sun to be approximately the same distance from the earth that our modern astronomers do.

## SOME EXAGGERATIONS

"Saint Germain" of the Ballards is also gifted with the capacity for making exaggerated statements. Below I quote just a few samples:

"You can just as easily find \$10,000 in your pocket as **TEN CENTS.**" (Page 10, July, 1936, "Voice of the I AM.")



“You can renew any nerve, any organ, and build any member of the body into its Perfection *almost immediately*.” (Page 42, “Discourses.”)

“Your ability to illumine a room is *just as easy* as physically illumining it through the electric lamp.” (Pages 59-60, “Discourses.”)

“ . . . with persistent effort and determination, they would open the door and step through into this great Inner Chamber, filled with such **Dazzling Light, jewels, gold, and substance** from which every kind of **food** in the Universe can be *precipitated*.” (Page 68, “Discourses.”)

As yet **there is no evidence** that these powers are so *easily* attained, even by the most sincere and persistent efforts of the Ballard students, nor for that matter, by the “Messengers” themselves.

Oh, let us not deceive ourselves, friends. Such powers as mentioned above are *only* given after many, many lives of arduous training and **living the life**. We certainly today with all our greed, selfishness, and intolerance are not entitled to them.

The ideal for us to live by is the example given by Jesus the Christ. He, too, was tried, as we are being tried, by the power and glory and riches of the world. But He rejected them in no uncertain terms, and chose the pathway of **service**. When He did any “precipitating” it was for *others*, not for Himself.

Can there still be any comparison of equality between these two individuals?

## “JESUS” OF THE BALLARDS

Many sincere students of the Ballards have earnestly asked themselves whether the **Christ of the Gospels** is really revealing Himself at this time to the world through the Ballards. Did He actually dictate some of the discourses, as the Ballards say He did?

They fear to question this point, because they have been warned repeatedly in no uncertain way that it is dangerous for their soul's advancement to doubt or question. “Jesus” of the Ballards tells them on Page 351 of the “Discourses”:

“Let no one be so foolish as to doubt, for **I AM the Jesus, the Christ of Galilee**, that you have known of for the past two thousand years, that is dictating this discourse and offering this assistance to you.”

On Page 199 of the “Discourses” Saint Germain adds his warning:

“Better were the students stoned in the streets than to condemn, criticise, or judge the Light that is given them . . . ”

Also on Page 337 of the “Discourses” Saint Germain says:

“*Unfortunate indeed are those who criticise the MESSENGERS or the WORK.* Better had they never been born in this embodiment.”

This intimidation by supposedly “Ascended Masters” is absolutely contrary to the statements of Christ and many of the Gospel writers, where we are warned, and warned repeatedly, to be on our guard against false Christs and prophets. Paul says:



“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but **try the spirits** whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”  
(I John 4:1.)

Jesus Himself, adds His warning:

“ . . . Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” (Matt. 24: 4-5.)

“ . . . If any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is the Christ, or here; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told you beforehand.” (Matt. 24: 23-25.)

In these nineteen hundred years this has literally come to pass. There has been an array of “Christs” appearing in human form throughout the centuries, and a goodly number who have as “spirits” appeared in mediumistic circles. But where are these “Christs” today?

In the name of God and of Humanity we should challenge these “Christs” to *prove* themselves. “*By their fruits ye shall know them.*”

## THE "I AM" CLOSED CORPORATION

Do you, reader, believe that the Christ of the Gospels would select *one lone* individual (or two) to be His duly appointed "Messenger" today when this same Mighty Being said 1900 years ago:

"And lo, I am with you *always*, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28: 20)?

Do you think that this Universal Soul could have said what the Ballards say He said, in the April "Voice of the I AM," page 26:

"Saint Germain, Myself [Jesus], or any other Ascended Masters are *not* giving out teachings of the "I AM" in the Western World, *except* through **Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Ballard** and their son **Donald** and **those** named *to* them and *under* them"?

Do you think that Jesus the Christ would make a "*family affair*" of His Teaching?

Do you think that the Christ of the Gospels would select any "*closed corporation*" to tell the world about the **MIGHTY PRESENCE WITHIN** when He speaks to *ALL* by means of this same Presence, which IS the Christ Self? He needs no external herald, no theatrical appearance, no servitude to a few individuals; for this same Christ Presence speaks to *all* in the gentle stillness of our own hearts if we will but listen to HIM.

How can Christ then limit the "I AM" teachings to the Ballards or any other family? And suppose he could, do you think that He would select individuals who would have so



little appreciation of Truth or Accuracy as we have shown the "Messengers" to have?

I ask you, "Do some of the statements of the 'Christ of the Ballards' sound as though coming from the 'Man of Galilee'?" For instance:

"I urge the students everywhere, with all the love at my command, to **forget everything else you have ever studied.**" (Feb., 1936, "Voice," Page 5.)

In other words, Jesus is quoted as telling the student to **forget His own ministry** given 1900 years ago. He is not to read the Bible and other sacred books. He is no longer to "*hold fast to that which he has proven to be good*" (as Paul urges us to), but he is to junk the whole works, burn his books if he feels it necessary for his Salvation (Ascension), and pin his abiding faith to books that we have proved to be filled with so much human error. "Jesus" of the Ballards says:

"The students will be wise indeed, no matter how great their inspiration, to *stand steadfast in their use of 'UNVEILED MYSTERIES,' the 'MAGIC PRESENCE,' the 'I AM DISCOURSES,' and the 'I AM ADORATIONS AND AFFIRMATIONS'* . . . there is *naught else* in the outer world today, that will carry this conviction with so great a power." (Feb., 1936, "Voice," Page 8.)

Also he says in same discourse, Page 7:

"*Let no one desire to transcend or replace these BELOVED MESSENGERS . . .* They have proven their ability to stand in the Light and with no personal desire, carry unselfishly the Pure Unadulterated Message of the 'Mighty I AM Pres-

ence,' and *until the Ascended Masters come forth in their tangible, visible bodies, THEY will remain the Direct Messengers of Saint Germain, Myself, and Others of the Ascended Masters.*"

And toward the last of this discourse he says:

"We shall endeavor to make 'THE VOICE OF THE I AM' *the most sought after periodical of the day . . .* It is my wish and that of the Host of Ascended Masters, that all students of the 'I AM' firmly **decree this** and stand by it."

I simply have to marvel at the audacity of printing such evident ballyhoo for the Ballards and their publications, but the greatest marvel of all is the way thousands of their students accept it as the Gospel truth and without question, as though these are really the words of the gentle Christ of Galilee.

In another discourse (Page 351-2 of the "I AM Discourses") Jesus is quoted as saying:

" . . . This work of Saint Germain and Myself is **entirely different** from anything that has been given forth to the Western World, because in this work there are **no human concepts or opinions.**"

Of human concepts there are plenty, as we have shown. Just another little sample is the following. In the Feb., 1936, "Discourse" Page 6 of the "Voice of the I AM"), Jesus is quoted as saying:

"Having before you the **TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE PAST FORTY YEARS**, then you must know, in the ever increasing intensity



of the greater creative activity, what must be accomplished in the next two years."

But Saint Germain in the June, 1936, "Voice of the I AM," Page 10, says:

"THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT LULL IN THE ACTIVITY OF OCCULT STUDENTS IN THE LAST FORTY YEARS . . . "

Which one of these "Ascended Masters" is right? One says that there has been "*tremendous accomplishment*" in the past forty years. The other, that there has been a "*great lull*."

Dear reader, run through the Gospel story again and compare the statements there with those made here. See whether Jesus at any time told His students to read only certain books or to make decrees for certain publications. Sad as it is to contemplate, the Bible prophecy has again come true. Jesus the Christ did not say these words.

## THE MYSTERY OF MR. BALLARD'S BODIES

There are many contradictions regarding the bodies that Mr. Ballard claims he used. He said on the platform many times that he used a **special body** prepared by Saint Germain when he went to Arabia and India, and that his **own physical body** was left on a bed in a room at Denver. Considering the fact that Mr. Ballard was (according to the "Magic Presence") away in far-off India at least *ten months*, it seems doubtful whether his unconscious body in Denver could have lasted that long without food or drink.

The **special body** that Mr. Ballard used to go to Arabia and India was, as Mr. Ballard has often said, a visible, tangible body, "tangible enough to buy a railway ticket," and that in this body he was able to drive an automobile, although *in his ordinary physical body he could NOT drive*. This statement is flatly contradicted on Page 42 of the "Magic Presence," where it said: "*We took turns at the wheel . . . and drove into camp.*" This was at the mine in Colorado, and he was in his ordinary physical body. A few days after that, when they returned to the ranch in Wyoming he again drove, according to Page 54, where Mr. Ballard says: "*Rex and I took turns in driving.*" Yet on the platform he said he could NOT drive!

It is strange that none of Mr. Ballard's books makes any mention of the **special body** that Mr. Ballard said he used to go to India. They read as if he went there in his ordinary physical body, just like Bob, Rex, Nada, and Pearl did. Yet on the platform (where he had to use his own name, **Ballard**, instead of the *nom de plume* GODFRE RAY KING) he made special mention of the fact that he had gone to India in a *special* body that Saint Germain had prepared for him.



We wonder why Mr. Ballard brought up this idea of a special body on the platform when his books do not mention it? Can it be that he realized that his friends in America knew that he had *not* gone to India **physically** during the time he said he had, and so he had to tell the story of going there in a sort of spirit body?

Is Mr. Ballard now living in the **special body** that Saint Germain prepared for him, or has he gotten back into his **own body** which was supposed to have been left in Denver when he went to India? Sometimes he speaks as though he had returned to his old body, and sometimes as if he hadn't.

If Mr. Ballard has gotten back into his own body, why should he have had so much difficulty in living in it after his return from India (as he said he had), until "Saint Germain lowered its vibratory rate to the physical octave"? His own or old body did not have its vibratory rate "*raised*" in India, so why did it have to be *lowered* in Chicago?

While in India, the "Magic Presence" says certain marvelous work was done on the body he had there, which, remember, was the **special body** that Saint Germain had prepared for him. It is strange that this special body would *need* any work done on it, as it had been created by an Ascended Master and could not have impurities. And yet a lot of "purification" was done, as the following quotations will show. The Great Divine Director speaks to Mr. Ballard and his party:

" . . . We shall give them bodies, such as have not been manifest before upon earth; that they may **stand before the world a living example** . . . Shadow after shadow passed off like sheaths, and the moment they left our bodies, were consumed." (Pages 387-8, "Magic Presence.")

Evidently it was the Great Divine Director's intention to have Mr. Ballard retain this "purified body," and to have him "*stand before the world a living example,*" as he stated above.

So if Mr. Ballard is today in this "purified" body, one would expect the utmost of perfection, a body as has "*not been manifest before upon earth,*" as stated above.

Now we hesitate to bring anything really personal into this analysis, but such grandiloquent remarks as above really justify one using the God-given power of sight to see whether the body that "*stood before the world*" at the **Shrine Class in Los Angeles and elsewhere** really measured up to the perfection indicated by the Great Divine Director's remarks. You be the judge in this.

Also at that same time in India, Mr. Ballard and his party were told by the Great Divine Director:

"Under their control shall come the *unlimited use* of the Cosmic Energy and the direction of the Mighty Light Rays." (Page 387, "Magic Presence.")

Mr. Ballard remarks:

"Our Inner sight and hearing were *forever* cleared, and made our *permanent servants.*" (Page 388.)

Lastly, "a Voice from the ethers" spoke:

"All who enter here *leave—forever—their earthly garments behind.*" (Page 390.)

And Mr. Ballard says:

"Two days and two nights later, we emerged from the 'Eternal Flame,' wearing our *new bodies of Immortal Endurance.*" (Page 390.)



According to these statements, Mr. Ballard has **forever left his earthly garments behind** and is wearing a **new body of immortal endurance**. At the Shrine Class in Los Angeles he said he was **"living on extended time."**

Now, if this be true, what has happened to his **OWN BODY**, the body that he was born with, the one which was *left on a bed* in Denver when he went to India in his **SPECIAL BODY** *over four years ago?*

Mr. Ballard says he is still "un-Ascended." Then, should not Mr. Ballard's Ascension *necessarily* be made in his own body, the one in Denver?

If that body is "dead," then Mr. Ballard *cannot* make his Ascension in this life (as he says he will) because **"Ascension can only be made from one's own physical body."**

If the Denver body is still "alive," what is going to happen to his new body of "immortal endurance" when he goes back to his own body for his Ascension in this life? It will endure forever. Besides, should not the Denver body have been used a little during these last four years, if it has to be prepared for Mr. Ballard's Ascension?

If Mr. Ballard is in the body that he was born with (as we confess we *really* think he is, despite all the above), then the Great Divine Director made a mistake in saying Mr. Ballard would *"stand before the world a living example"* in his *"body of immortal endurance."* And yet we are told that "Ascended Masters never make mistakes."

And what about Mr. Ballard's body that is being preserved at the Royal Teton in a crystal casket? (See Page 123 of "Unveiled Mysteries.")

It is simply **TOO** much to accept all these statements. There are so many contradictions that the intelligent mind

must cast the matter of these bodies out as absurd. The fact is that Mr. Ballard is in a body that is as human as ours. He has to eat, drink, sleep, bathe, and attend to all the other normal human functions. There is no "mystery" about his body. The mystery lies in how a human being could imagine all of it.



## THE "LIGHT AND SOUND RAY" EPISODE

Why did Mr. Ballard on the *platform* make so much over the coming of the "Light and Sound Ray" to his home in Chicago in 1932 after his "return" from the Far East? On the platform he tells about the "Light and Sound Ray" *as though it appeared to him for the first time* in Chicago in 1932. He said that when it appeared he knew then that "at last he had come home" and it changed his life.

Yet two years *before* this Chicago experience (if we believe his writings) he had witnessed this same "Light and Sound Ray" *every day* at the home of his friend in the "Secret Valley."

"Every day," said Eriel, "*you shall witness the use of the Light and Sound Rays that annihilate time and space, and which mankind is destined to use in the near future . . .*" (Page 214, "Unveiled Mysteries.")

Also, from his remarks on the platform, it seems that he knew practically nothing about the "I AM" until Saint Germain explained it to him for the *first time* in the "Discourses" over the "Light and Sound Ray" at his home in Chicago in 1932.

Yet a year before this, while at the ranch in Wyoming, he said of himself and party:

"Each one could clearly see his own 'Mighty I AM Presence' smiling down upon him serenely."  
("Magic Presence," Page 162.)

Also, when in Washington, D. C., before going to India, he had spent *three months* of intensive training (so he says) with Saint Germain, in actual physical study and contact. (See Page 264, "Magic Presences.")

And then in India, you remember what wonderful things happened to him. He even was given a "*new body of immortal endurance*" and his "*inner sight and hearing were forever cleared.*"

In the face of all these wonderful *prior* experiences it is difficult to understand why he stresses the **Chicago 1932 episode** so much, unless it be that **the entire group of spiritual experiences began at that time**. In other words, Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, perhaps, went through some sort of "psychical" experience at or following that time in their home in Chicago, when certain information about the power of the "I AM" came to them, either from a "Spirit" Being whom they called "Saint Germain" or from other sources. And the books were conceived or written *following* the Chicago episode.

Seemingly, the spiritual phenomena at Mr. Ballard's Chicago home so stimulated his mind and imaginative faculties that he set about writing the first two books, and put in a lot of fantastic experiences and erroneous dates which absolutely do not check up with facts and reason. On Page 245 of "Unveiled Mysteries" he mentions that there was a period during which he and Mrs. Ballard "*had not been together on the physical plane for some two years.*" Therefore, he could easily fill in the gap of two years with the experiences he tells about.

The statement, however, on Page X of the Foreword of "Unveiled Mysteries" would seemingly contradict this theory, if true:

"This book is written in the embrace of the majestic, towering presence of Mount Shasta."  
( . . . that is, during August, September, and October of 1930.)

However it may be, it is strange that having received these teachings from Saint Germain in 1930 he did not publish them until 1934. Why the delay in getting such an important message to the world? Certainly it could not have been financial, if, as he said, he was promised by Saint Germain unlimited assistance and financial support.



## THE "PROOFS" OF THE BALLARD TEACHINGS

Mr. Ballard reiterated on the platform that **"every word in these books is true,"** yet he offered absolutely *no proof* of it being so. The whole of it, with its inaccuracies and transcendental experiences, *must be taken on the word of one man.*

Where are the various personalities whom Mr. Ballard mentions in his books? Why don't they come forward to help him substantiate his claims?

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Livingston and their daughter, Zara, according to the books, are living in the United States. Why don't they give their testimony about their association with Saint Germain and Mr. Ballard?

Where is the President of the University mentioned on Page 266 of the "Magic Presence," who was a member of the Great White Brotherhood? It would be helpful to know where his University is in America so that "I AM" students might go there.

Gaylord, another member of the Brotherhood, has not come forward to substantiate Mr. Ballard's claims. Neither has Mr. Ballard's friend who took him to the Secret Valley in Arizona.

And what has happened to Bob and Rex, Nada and Pearl? They were due back years ago. Mr. Ballard sees them *psychically* on the platform, but they are never present physically.

Where are the precipitated robes and the indestructible or unbreakable dishes that were given by Saint Germain to Mr. Ballard and to the other students?

Surely there should be some means of offering a little proof to the world beside the written or spoken word.

## WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE THREE GOLD MINES?

There was first of all the *Rayborn Mine*, of which Rayborn said:

"We have had this mine for about twelve years . . . We have taken out **millions of dollars** in value." (Pages 44-45, "Magic Presence.")

Then Saint Germain indicated to Mr. Ballard where there was:

" . . . *a deposit immensely richer*, that has been passed . . . contains **over twenty million dollars** in gold, clear and above all operating expenses." (Page 40, "Magic Presence.") He called this mine the "*Master Discovery*."

On Page 273 of the "Magic Presence" Saint Germain speaks to Rex, Bob, and Mr. Ballard of a *third* wonderful deposit:

"I wish to say, there is another great ore-body not half a mile from the 'Master Discovery' . . . **As the claims are all patented and the deeds in your hands, they will be safe, until your return from the East in two years.**" And he says on Page 281 regarding this mine: "After your return from the Far East, it will be **opened up . . .**"

The above statement was made in **July of 1932**. *Four years* have gone by, and there is no evidence that this wonderful store of gold has been "opened up." Mr. Ballard on the platform insists that he does not own anything but his "personal effects," and that the "I AM" lecture work is supported

by voluntary contributions and from sale of books. What has happened to this immense store of gold?

Then **where are the miners** who knew of the location of the first two mines, and had been sent there to mine them? These miners knew of the strange disappearance of Rayborn, the owner of one of them, and that of Bob Singleton the superintendent; also of Rex the son. Would not all these things cause comment and a rush of people to the mines in Colorado?

But we hear nothing about these "gold strikes" out in the world—*only* in Mr. Ballard's books and his statements.

## WHY NOT ACTUAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND RECORDS OF THE ASCENDED MASTERS?

At their classes Mr. and Mrs. Ballard showed **drawings and sketches** (taken from various sources) of the Ascended Masters. Now, if permission had been given to show drawings, why not the actual **photographs**? It would have given additional weight to the Ballards' claims of tangible and physical contact with the Great Ones. But as usual, there is no proof other than their statements, and this is no proof.

It is the same way with the Discourses given over the "Light and Sound Ray." Why not an **actual phonographic reproduction** of Saint Germain's voice? This would have certainly been possible to do, for on Page XV in the Foreword of the "I AM Discourses," speaking of Saint Germain, it says:

"The sound of His voice was *physically* audible to *everyone* in the room."

So instead of the modern scientific way of recording sound on a phonographic disc, Mrs. Ballard had laboriously to record



Saint Germain's discourses in **longhand**, necessitating him spending from **two and a-half to five hours** with the Ballards each time he came, according to Mr. Ballard's statement made on the platform. What a prodigal spending of time by a Perfected Being!

It would seem that an "Ascended Master" should have more efficient ways of getting his message through to the world. Mrs. Ballard, an un-Ascended being, records her *own* discourses on a modern phonographic record, but the "Ascended Master Saint Germain" is still "old fashioned," as he says.

## THE "ASCENDED LADY MASTER" NADA SPEAKS TO A WASHINGTON AUDIENCE

On Pages 245-6 of the "Magic Presence" it is recorded how the Ascended Lady Master Nada, "wearing a gown glittering with jewels," both *sang* and *talked* to an entire audience on Christmas Eve in Washington, D. C., when "the great auditorium was packed to capacity."

Now, if it was permissible and possible for an Ascended Master to do that for a mixed and unenlightened audience, why was not the *same thing* done for the beautifully sympathetic and worshipful audience that greeted the Ballards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles and in other cities? Surely, considering all the love and devotion that was poured out to the Ballards, these audiences deserve as much as the uninstructed audience in Washington. But as usual, these "marvels" only occur in the Ballard books, with no more evidence than their written or spoken word.

## THE FICTIONAL NATURE OF MR. BALLARD'S BOOKS

Mr. Ballard has given birth to an extravaganza of romantic and transcendental literature, fantastically picturing the ideal, with *himself* playing the part of the hero. The characters he writes about are largely representative of Mr. Ballard at various stages of development. They seemingly are drawn from his own mundane experiences in life, and then embellished and exalted by imaginative fancy to the highest ideals that he is capable of weaving. It is a psychological study, which might interest the psycho-analyst.

For instance, Mr. Ballard's early life was spent on a ranch, where it is said he raised hogs and cattle. Rayborn, his chief hero, was also a rancher, and raised cattle for the market. (Note the occurrence of "Ray" in both names, Godfré *Ray* King and *Ray*born, showing the identity between the two characters.)

Mr. Ballard said in the "Magic Presence" (Page 139):

"I could not help but wonder several times, while at the ranch, how it was possible for Rayborn to be engaged in such a line of business."

Then Saint Germain sets his mind at rest by telling him of the use of the Violet Consuming Flame in consuming such human creation. Therefore, the hero, Rayborn, was able to make his Ascension despite the killing of animals, just as Mr. Ballard hopes to do despite his former activity, which in his present enlightenment seems a terrible thing.

Mr. Ballard part of his life was a mining man, but poor. Rayborn, his ideal, was also a mining man, but *rich*. He discovers an immense amount of gold, just as Mr. Ballard had hoped he would all his life. He confessed on the platform

that he had always a "greed for money" up to the time of his experiences with Saint Germain. Therefore, gold, jewels, and Spanish coins play a dominant part in his two books.

Mr. Ballard by type is an idealist, living in a world that is impregnated with realism. He earnestly desired youth, beauty, and the transcendental things of life. Therefore, his ideal characters are always young and beautiful, tall and stately, and practically always with "*violet-blue eyes*" and "*flowing golden hair*." His men are all "*six feet one or two inches in height*," with perfect physiques. His villains are "*dark eyed*" and of "*dominating character*." Ordinary human love is exalted to union of "Twin Rays" or Twin Souls. And so on. The fictional touch is unmistakable.

Mr. Ballard quotes long dissertations from Saint Germain and the other Ascended Masters, which purport to be their **exact words**. Of course, *he could not have remembered these long speeches, word for word*; and they were taken under conditions where he had little chance to take them down in writing. If Saint Germain went over the manuscript with him (as it is said he did), then it is just as difficult to see how an Ascended Master could have permitted so many errors of dates and subject matter to creep in when: "an Ascended Master makes no mistakes . . . Is absolutely Infallible at all times." (Pages 157-8, "Magic Presence.")

This phenomenal memory of Mr. Ballard again shows the fictional character of his work. You know, it is easy to use quotation marks in FICTION, but I wonder who can quote the exact words of last Sunday's sermon, or, for that matter, the last discourse of Saint Germain in the "Voice of the I AM"? Would you dare give it out as an **absolutely correct transcription**, and insist as Mr. Ballard does, that "*every word of it is true*" and "*there are no human concepts or opinions*" in it?



## THE "PANTHER STORY" AND OTHER INCONSISTENCIES

On Page 75 of "Unveiled Mysteries," it is recorded that a panther guarded Mr. Ballard's body while he was away on a soul flight. The panther was in reality no protection to the body, for on Page 233 of the same book it is related how a **mountain lion killed the panther.**

It is also recorded here that this same mountain lion sprang at Mr. Ballard, and then it and the panther "locked in mortal combat." Why did Mr. Ballard need the protection of the panther? He was able a short time previously to prevent the panther from killing him by looking it in the eye. **Why was he not also able to tame the mountain lion** in the same way?

On Page 1 of "Unveiled Mysteries," Mr. Ballard mentions that he had *previously* traveled in the Far East. He has never to the writer's knowledge referred to these *earlier* travels.

Mr. Ballard describes in detail all about a retreat in the mountains known as the Grand or Royal Teton, and yet *he tells nothing about the more generally known MT. SHASTA RETREAT*, although he was physically staying in the town at the foot of the mountain, and dedicated his first book, among others, to "the Brotherhood of Mount Shasta."

On Page 87 of the "Magic Presence" it is stated that while at the Cave of Symbols near the Rayborn Ranch in Wyoming, Saint Germain spoke "directly to Nada, Pearl, Rex, and **Bob Singleton.**" BUT, *Bob was not there*; he was left at the mine in Colorado, five hundred miles away, as you will find stated on Page 53, where they said good-bye to him.

It is stated in the "Magic Presence" that **Gaylord, a member of the Great White Brotherhood**, had power to *leave*

*his body consciously*; also to *see through walls* (see Pages 180 and 211). Yet he permitted himself to be kidnapped by two men and one woman, and was taken to France without the authorities on the boat or at the French port knowing anything about the kidnapping. And Mr. Ballard *himself* was on this same boat, having followed the kidnappers from the New York pier without a passport. (It seems that at a moment's notice he and the others could get passage to foreign countries. See Page 226, "Magic Presence.") And he did not intervene until after the boat reached France, not even when the two men left the stateroom, leaving only the woman to guard Gaylord. Why didn't Gaylord himself escape at that time? Why wasn't he able to see through the walls of his stateroom into the adjoining one where Mr. Ballard was? Why should a "member of the Great White Brotherhood" be so powerless in the face of danger, more so than an ordinary human being?

On Page 358 of the "Magic Presence" it is related how the boy, Rex, while in India, *discovers a spy* at one of the secret meetings of the Great White Brotherhood where two hundred members of that Great Order had assembled. It is absolutely inconceivable that these great Masters would not know of this spy and that it remained for a mere neophyte to discover him and thus save the day for the Brotherhood.

We wonder why the two "**rattlesnake stories**" were introduced in the second book, the "Magic Presence"—(See Pages 55 and 176)—"**a work of the Great Ascended Masters.**" We cannot imagine how the *actual* killing of snakes has any occult or spiritual value.

## THE GOOD IN THE BALLARD TEACHINGS

We come now to the positive and happier side of this analysis.

It seems to me that the most helpful thing about the work of Mr. and Mrs. Ballard is their insistence on *complete harmony in the thought and feeling worlds of their students*. Over and over again is this stressed. Harmony and happiness in the home, office, and world. And it is noteworthy that many people who have attended their classes have done much to bring this about in their environment. It has helped them to get hold of themselves, as perhaps no other teaching in recent years has done for so many, and has given them an incentive to work for their success in life through the power of the "Magic Presence" within.

**Other metaphysical schools**, of course, have taught of this same "Mighty I AM Presence." But the Ballards came at a time when people were earnestly looking for a solution to their financial problems and for a real understanding of the meaning of life. Coming with magnetic personalities and a showmanship which has hardly been equaled, they told their audiences how they could obtain *three inherently desirable things*:

1. **OPULENCE**, not necessarily by working with hands and brains, but by *decreeing* it into existence from the Universal Source of Supply.

2. **POWER AND GLORY**. Association with Mighty Spiritual Beings to bring about great changes upon the earth and the development of marvelous powers of seership.

3. **THE ASCENSION**. Lastly, when the life's course has been run, the absolute freedom



from the “Wheel of Birth and Rebirth” *in this very embodiment*—and no Karmic Debts to pay.

I ask you, reader, what three things in life have more motivating influence than these? Not only is one practically promised his **financial freedom**, and raised to a higher **social level** than all the honors of earth by association with the Mighty Ones in the Retreats, but, when the course of life is over, the certainty of **permanent happiness in the “Golden Etheric City” with no return ticket!**

The surprising thing is that intelligent people who ordinarily would analyze a business proposition presented to them, will, without any investigation whatever, accept without question everything that the Ballards have said or written.

The point is NOT that there is no Good in the Ballard teachings. The Good is there. But without discrimination, a good idea or principle may be used to wrong ends and purposes. For instance, the idea of “The Ascension” is a wonderful concept and an undoubted consummation of life’s victories on earth. But whether we should *decree* and *demand* our Ascension NOW—IN THIS LIFE—before we are half-way through with this School of Experience, is a very questionable procedure. We should ask ourselves whether we are really ready to graduate from this earth school; whether we have complete mastery over our body, mind, and environment. If we haven’t, then there are still lessons for us to learn. At no time in our evolutionary journey can we afford to dispense with our “Discriminating Intelligence.” It will save us many griefs.

There is much that is worthy in Mr. Ballard’s books and in the Discourses of Saint Germain. It is unfortunate that there are so many *other* things that are so questionable as to their ultimate good. Many of the quotations and statements

are enlightening and inspiring. The poems and songs are beautiful, and may be used just like any other inspirational creations. Out of the strivings of the Soul, whatever the mistakes of the human personality, may come the most transcendent wisdom. We should be able to approach any piece of literature in this way, in an unbiased, tolerant attitude, and extract the essence of Truth which it contains.

It is my earnest and sincere hope that this analysis will help you do this. I send it forth with the prayer that it will not undo any GOOD that these teachings have accomplished and that it will tend to correct any evil that might come through a blind and unquestioning adherence to what is taught. And lastly, there goes forth from my heart and mind a prayer to **Mr. and Mrs. Ballard** and their son **Donald** that the Good they have done and the Harmony they have brought to homes and families may grow and grow, and offset any evils which might result from human errors and misunderstandings of Truth.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE "I AM" CLASS LEADERS AND STUDENTS

This commentary offers no criticism of the many faithful "I AM" class leaders who have carried on so sincerely and trustfully in the "I AM" work. Their implicit faith in the source and truth of their information has been worthy of a more sacred trust.

May they still carry the Torch of Truth to others and be guided by their own inner sense of Reality to follow the **"Mighty Christ Presence Within,"** and never again, blindly, unquestioningly, to follow any human personality on the face of the earth.

And to the tens of thousands of faithful, conscientious "I AM" students throughout the land who may for a time be disheartened and disillusioned: Do not let your experience dampen your ardor to know and experience Truth.

Truth is the most precious possession of mankind, and therefore the most difficult to find. It is a precious metal that is found not on the surface of things, but deep down in the hearts of things. And for this reason the quest for Truth is that much more intense and inspiring.

You will find a little of it every day, sometimes in the most unexpected places. It does not occur in great flowing, glowing masses like the coke out of a great furnace. It would then not be so valuable. But it resides deeply in all of God's creation, in people, creatures, birds, and flowers—in the heart of the Universe, and us.

Know, therefore, and feel, that there is still present in God's great Cosmos—**Truth, Righteousness, and Infinite Goodness.**



## CONCLUSION

We come now to the close of this analysis of Mr. Ballard's experiences. Much more could be brought out showing the contradictory nature of most of them, but if there is still an uncertainty in the minds of readers about their truth or falsity, I am afraid no amount of evidence would prove it for them.

I desire to differentiate sharply between Mr. Ballard's experiences and his philosophical comments. I am frank in saying that I believe Mr. Ballard "imagined" most of these experiences. But one can hardly read his books without realizing that there is *much in them of a philosophical nature that is quite fine*. However, there is also much philosophy in them that is, in my opinion, as fantastic as his experiences.

I am getting together *another brochure* setting forth the reasons why I believe this way. It will discuss such matters as the **Gas Belts, Catastrophes, the Wrong Use of Decrees, the Dangers of Demanding Money, the Animal Creation Question, the Violet Flame, the Ascension, Physical Remedies, Comparison With Other "I AM" Teachings and Occult Philosophies, Astrology, "Twin Rays,"** and many additional matters which may be confusing.

Just because Mr. Ballard's experiences may have been only in his "mind" is no reason to throw up the entire "I AM" work, or to think that other individuals may not have authentic occult experiences. *The great body of occult facts and theories that have been presented to the world the past fifty years or so, is not shaken because of the evident fallacy of some of the Ballard teachings.* We should ever remember the exhortation of Paul:

"*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*"





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